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FAX TRANSMISSION      March 2, 2009

TO:    Mail Stop: AF  
         Examiner: Shaw, Amanda Marie  
         Commissioner for Patents  
         PO Box 1450  
         Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

FROM: Douglas P. Mueller

OUR REF: 10873.1576USWO

TELEPHONE: (612) 455.3800

Total pages, including cover letter:

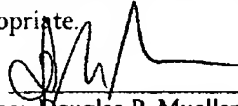
8

PTO FAX NUMBER: 571.273.8300

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Title of Document:      **Response (7 pages)**Applicant:    OKAMOTO et al.  
Serial No.:    10/522045  
App. Filed:    January 19, 2005  
Group Art No.: 1634

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S/N 10/522,045

PATENTIN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	Okamoto et al.	Examiner:	Shaw, A
Serial No.:	10/522,045	Group Art Unit:	1634
Filed:	January 19, 2005	Docket No.:	10873.1576USWO
Title:	MICROORGANISM OR CELL COLLECTION METHOD, AND MICROORGANISM OR CELL COLLECTING IMPLEMENT USED FOR THE METHOD		

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.6(d): I hereby certify that this paper is being transmitted by facsimile to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on March 2, 2009.

By: Justine L. Suleski  
Name: Justine L. Suleski

RESPONSE

Mail Stop AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the final Office Action mailed on December 1, 2008, Applicants respectfully request favorable reconsideration in view of the following:

**Remarks** begin on page 2 of this paper.